
Acronyms

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AAHP	American Association of Health Plans
ACE-PRO	Access to Care for the Elderly Project
ADL	activity of daily living
AHA	American Hospital Association
AHCA	American Health Care Association
AHRQ	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
AIC	minimum amount in controversy
ALJ	administrative law judge
AMA	American Medical Association
APC	ambulatory payment classification or ambulatory payment category
ASC	ambulatory surgical center
AWP	average wholesale price
BBA	Balanced Budget Act of 1997
BBRA	Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999
BIPA	Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000
BLS	Bureau of Labor Statistics
CAC	carrier advisory committee
CAH	critical access hospital
CAHPS	Consumer Assessment of Health Plans Survey
CalPERS	California Public Employees' Retirement System
CAT	computerized automated tomography
CBO	Congressional Budget Office
CC	complication or comorbidity
CCP	coordinated care plan
CMG	case-mix group
CMS	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
COLA	cost of living adjustment
CPI-U	consumer price index for all urban consumers
CPT	Current Procedural Terminology
DAB	Departmental Appeals Board
DME	durable medical equipment
DMERC	durable medical equipment regional contractor
DoD	Department of Defense
DRG	diagnosis related group
DSH	disproportionate share
ECI	employment cost index
ED	emergency department
ESRD	end-stage renal disease
FDA	Food and Drug Administration

FEHBP	Federal Employees Health Benefits Program
FFS	fee-for-service
FI	fiscal intermediary
FY	fiscal year
GAO	General Accounting Office
GDP	gross domestic product
GI	gastrointestinal
GME	graduate medical education
GPCI	geographic practice cost index
GPO	group purchasing organization or Government Printing Office
HCBC	home and community-based care
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HCPCS	Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System
HHA	home health agency
HHRG	home health resource group
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services
HI	Hospital Insurance (Medicare Part A)
HMO	health maintenance organization
HPSA	health professional shortage area
HSC	Center for Studying Health System Change
HWI	hospital wage index
HWIr	hospital wage index with geographic reclassification
HWIu	hospital wage index unreclassified
ICD-9-CM	International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification
IDE	investigational device exemption
IHS	Indian Health Service
IME	indirect medical education
IOM	Institute of Medicine
IPS	interim payment system
IRF	inpatient rehabilitation facility
LMRP	local medical review policy
LOS	length of stay
LTC	long-term care
LTC-DRG	long-term care diagnosis related group
LTCH	long-term care hospital
LUPA	low utilization payment adjustment
M+C	Medicare+Choice
MB	market basket
MCAC	Medicare Coverage Advisory Committee
MCBS	Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey
MCO	managed care organization
MDC	major diagnostic category
MedPAC	Medicare Payment Advisory Commission
MedPAR	Medicare Provider Analysis and Review

MEI	Medicare Economic Index
MEPS	Medical Expenditure Panel Survey
MPR	Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging
MSA	metropolitan statistical area
NAIC	National Association of Insurance Commissioners
NCD	national coverage decision
NCFE	National Century Financial Enterprises
NCHS	National Center for Health Statistics
NHAMCS	National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey
NHE	national health expenditure
NHIS	National Hospital Indicators Survey or National Health Interview Survey
NHS	National Health Service (United Kingdom)
NICE	National Institute for Clinical Excellence (United Kingdom)
NKF	National Kidney Foundation
NLA	national limitation amount
OACT	Office of the Actuary
OASIS	Outcomes and Assessment Information Set
OBRA	Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act
OIG	Office of Inspector General
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OPD	outpatient department
OR	operating room
OSCAR	Online Survey, Certification, and Reporting system
PAC	post-acute care
PACE	Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly
PBM	pharmaceutical benefit management organization
PE	practice expense
PET	positron emission tomography
PFFS	private fee-for-service
PHI	private health insurance
PLI	professional liability insurance
POS	point-of-service (plan)
PPO	preferred provider organization
PPS	prospective payment system
ProPAC	Prospective Payment Assessment Commission
PTCA	percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty
QI-1	Qualifying Individuals–1
QIO	quality improvement organization
QMB	qualified Medicare beneficiary
RUG–III	resource utilization group, version III
S/HMO	Social Health Maintenance Organization
SCHIP	State Children’s Health Insurance Program
SGR	sustainable growth rate

SHIP	State Health Insurance Assistance Program
SLMB	specified low-income Medicare beneficiary
SMI	Supplementary Medical Insurance (Medicare Part B)
SMS	Socioeconomic Monitoring System
SNF	skilled nursing facility
SSI	Supplemental Security Income
TEFRA	Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982
UK	United Kingdom
USRDS	United States Renal Data System
VA	Department of Veterans Affairs